THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No such agreements are under consideration for signing with Australia.

(b) Does not arise.

Urban Co-operative Banks in Assam

1315. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Urban Co-operative Banks in Assam, particularly, the Silchar Urban Co-operative Bank which has been rendering yeoman's services to the poor in Barak Valley of Assam has become sick due to non-availability of funds from the State as well as the Ceptial Government.

(b) whether the State and Central Government have received proposals for revival of this bank and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to help this bank to come out of financial crisis so that it could return the deposits of the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that out of the twelve (12) primary urban co-operative banks (PCBs) in the State of Assam, four PCBs including the Silchar Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd., Silchar have been classified: as 'weak banks'. The financial position of the aforesaid bank is precarious due to which it is not complying with the requirement of Section 11(1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 (as applicable to co-operative societies) in maintaining a net worth of not less than Rs. 1.00 lakh. RBI had reviewed the financial position of the said bank and had come to the conclusion that its chances for turnaround are remote and its continuance would not be in the interest of the depositors and public. Hence, the said bank has been served with notices to explain why their licence to carry on banking business should not be cancelled and the bank be liquidated.

(b) No proposal for revival of the said bank has been received by

the Central Government though some references were received for providing financial assistance to the bank.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

SBI Branches in Newly Created Districts of U.P.

1316. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no SBI branches in any of the newly created districts of U.P.;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to open SBI branches in these districts;

(c) if so, the time schedule for doing so, district-wise; and

(d) by when such a branch would be opened in shravasti district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The number of bimnches of State Bank of India (SBI) which are functioning in the newly created Districts of Uttar Pradesh are as under;

Name of District	No. of Branches
Kannauj	7
Sant Kabirdas Nagar	12
Ambedkar Nagar	6
Sant Ravidas Nagar	4
Jyotiba Phule Nagar	8
Shahusi Mahraj Nagar	2
Gautam Budh Nagar	5

(b) and (c) State Bank of India do not have any pending proposal at present for opening a Branch in these Districts.

(d) In Shravasti District, SBI is ahready having a branch at Sahariyawan.